# RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES PERMITS SECTION 235 PROMENADE STREET PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02908-5767

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT ACTION UNDER THE RHODE ISLAND POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (RIPDES) PROGRAM WHICH REGULATES DISCHARGES INTO THE WATERS OF THE STATE UNDER CHAPTER 46-12 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS OF 1956, AS AMENDED.

DATE OF NOTICE: October 22, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: PN 21-08

### **DRAFT RIPDES PERMIT**

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: RI0023558

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

### Sakonnet Point Club, Incorporated

50 Sakonnet Point Road Little Compton, Rhode Island 02837

#### NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

#### Sakonnet Point Club, Incorporated

11 Bluff Head Avenue Little Compton, Rhode Island 02837

### RECEIVING WATER: Sakonnet Harbor (WBID: RI0010031E-01D)

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: **SA{b**}

The facility, which is the source of the discharge, is located in the Town of Little Compton and is engaged in the reverse osmosis desalination of brackish well water to supply the Club's drinking water system. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) last issued the facility's RIPDES Permit in 2013. The permit authorizes the discharge from Outfall 001A (Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Discharge). The above referenced outfall discharges to the Sakonnet Harbor.

Effluent monitoring requirements have been established for Cadmium, Hexavalent Chromium, Lead, Zinc, Nickel, and Aluminum. Monitoring and reporting requirements have also been updated to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule and the NPDES Sufficiently Sensitive Test Methods and Reporting Rule. The DEM has determined that the proposed permit complies with the antidegradation provisions of the Rhode Island Water Quality Regulations and

that existing uses will be maintained and protected.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

A Statement of Basis (describing the type of facility and significant factual, legal and policy questions considered in these permit actions) may be obtained at no cost by emailing or calling DEM as noted below:

Max Maher, Environmental Engineer I Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Office of Water Resources 235 Promenade Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767 (401) 222-4700 ext. 2777201 e-mail: <u>maximilian.maher@dem.ri.gov</u>

The administrative record containing all documents relating to these permit actions is on file and may be inspected, by appointment, at the DEM's Providence office mentioned above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

## PUBLIC COMMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Pursuant to Chapter 42-17.4 of the Rhode Island General Laws a public hearing has been scheduled to consider this permit <u>if requested</u>. Requests for a Public Hearing must be submitted to the attention of Max Maher as indicated above. Notice should be taken that if DEM receives a request from twenty-five (25) people, a governmental agency or subdivision, or an association having no less than twenty-five (25) members on or before 4:00 PM on November 29, 2021, a public hearing will be held at the following time and place:

5:00 PM Thursday, December 2, 2021 Room 280 235 Promenade Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Interested persons should contact DEM to confirm if a hearing will be held at the time and location noted above.

235 Promenade Street is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call Max Maher or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Interested parties may submit comments on the permit actions and the administrative record to the address above no later than 4:00 PM December 3, 2021.

If, during the public comment period, significant new questions are raised concerning the permit, DEM may require a new draft permit or fact sheet or may reopen the public comment period. A public notice will be issued for any of these actions.

Any person, including the permittee/applicant, who believes these permit actions are inappropriate, must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their position, including all supporting material, by the close of the public comment period under 250-RICR-150-10-1.42 of the Regulations of the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The public comment period is from October 22 to December 3, 2021. Commenters may request a longer comment period if necessary, to provide a reasonable opportunity to comply with these requirements. Comments should be directed to DEM as noted above.

#### FINAL DECISION AND APPEALS:

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, if such hearing is held, the Director will issue a final decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the permittee and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the final decision, any interested person may submit a request for a formal hearing in accordance with the requirements of 250-RICR-150-10-1.50 of the Regulations of the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

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Joseph B. Haberek, P.E. Environmental Engineer IV RIPDES, Office of Water Resources Department of Environmental Management